Exploring Michigan’s Urban/Rural Divide

MSU Legislative Leadership Program
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Eric W. Lupher, President
Citizens Research Council of Michigan

www.crcmich.org
Citizens Research Council

- Founded in 1916
- Statewide
- Non-partisan
- Private not-for-profit
- Promotes sound policy for state and local governments through factual research – accurate, independent and objective
- Relies on charitable contributions from Michigan foundations, businesses, and individuals
- www.crcmich.org
Eric Lupher, President

• 32 years at the Citizens Research Council of Michigan

• Generalist
  • Taxation
  • Constitutional Issues
  • Intergovernmental Finance

• Local government
  • Finance
  • Organization
  • Charter Issues
  • Consolidation
Why this report?

What to read into the responses
Do we see ourselves as Michigan?

• Statewide election results reflect differences in outlook
  • Economic motivation
  • Ideology

• Polarization
  • Policymaking
  • Media
  • Social media

• Understanding each other better to improve the discourse
Classification of Urban/Rural Governments

Cities and Townships

Counties

- Rural Area
- Urban Area
- Entirely Rural
- Mostly Rural
- Mostly Urban
Elections
2016 Election

2016 Election Results Showing Support for President Trump by City/Township

- Consistent with national patterns
  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>60.1%</td>
<td>44.1%</td>
<td>+26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
<td>50.8%</td>
<td>-6.7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Voter Turnout
  - 62.5 in urban counties
  - 60.3 in rural counties
Partisanship

Partisan Voting Index by Area, 2000-16

- Urban counties – D+4.5
- Rural Counties – R+10.5
- Michigan – D+1.3
Population
Population Change

Average Annual Population Growth by City/Township, 2010-2016

- Annual statewide growth 0.085%
  - Urban growth 0.11%
  - Rural growth 0.01%

- Uneven growth for each
  - Urban
    - Hollowing out of inner cities
    - Growth in suburban communities
  - Rural
    - More growth on west side of state than east side
    - Little growth in the UP
Race

Percentage of Nonwhite Residents in the Total Population by City/Township

- White population
  - 95% of rural population
  - 74% of urban population

- Black population
  - 1.2% of rural population
  - 18% of urban population

- Asian population
  - 0.5% of rural population
  - 3.4% of urban population
Ethnicity

Percentage of Residents of Hispanic/Latino Origin by City/Township

- Michigan population proportionally smaller than national average
  - 5.2% urban population
  - 3.2% rural population
- Largest concentration in Grand Rapids/Holland/Muskegon area and just north
  - Along Lake Michigan
Age

Age Distribution by Area, 2015

• Rural areas, on average, are about 5.8 years older than urban areas

• Note:
  • Higher percentages of urban residents below 35 years of age
  • Higher percentages of rural residents over 49 years of age
Veterans

Percentage of the Population that is a Veteran by City/Township

- 8.5% of rural population
- 7.6% of urban population
- Lack of shading in Michigan’s inner cities is striking
Immigration
Foreign-Born Population

Percentage of Population that is Foreign-Born by City/Township

- Foreign-born residents
  - 7.7% of urban population
  - 1.9% of rural population

- Foreign-born population in Michigan less than national average 13.2%

- Not U.S. Citizens
  - 3.8% of urban population
  - 0.9% of rural population
Immigrant Status

Arrival Year for the Foreign-born Population by Area

- 2010 or later: 9.7%
- 2000-2009: 25.2%
- 1990-1999: 19.7%
- Before 1990: 45.4%

Immigrants by Country of Origin by Area

- Mexico: 45,764
- India: 954
- Iraq: 33,884
- Canada: 36,232
- China: 398
- Lebanon: 10,000
- Philippines: 17,283
- Syria: 4,906
Marriage and Family Life
Marital Status

Current Marital Status by Area

- **Currently Married**
  - 58.2% in rural areas
  - 44.9% in urban areas
- **Never Married**
  - 23.9% in rural areas
  - 35.5% in urban areas
- **Nuclear Families**
  - 82.4% of rural population
  - 70.2% of urban population
Housing
Housing Units

Type of Housing Unit by Area

- 1-unit detached: 84.3% (Rural), 67.6% (Urban)
- 1-unit attached: 1.1% (Rural), 6.0% (Urban)
- Multi-unit: 4.0% (Rural), 23.0% (Urban)
- Mobile Home: 3.4% (Rural), 10.6% (Urban)
- Other: 0.3% (Rural), 0.2% (Urban)

Year of Home Purchase by Area

- 2010 or later: 19.8% (Rural), 33.0% (Urban)
- 2000-2009: 33.7% (Rural), 32.2% (Urban)
- 1990-1999: 22.1% (Rural), 16.1% (Urban)
- 1980-1989: 11.1% (Rural), 8.1% (Urban)
- 1979 or earlier: 13.3% (Rural), 10.6% (Urban)
Home Values

Median Household Value by City/Township

• Urban areas display stark differences between suburban and inner city neighborhoods
• Rural areas display differences between summer/resort areas and elsewhere
Broadband

Percent of Household with Access to a Minimum of 25 MBPS Broadband by County

• Important to
  • Conduct daily business, received news, interact with friends
  • Access health care, interact with government, support school studies

• Urban areas have near universal coverage

• In many rural areas less than half of the households have access to broadband Internet
  • Proximity to urban areas matters
Education
School Enrollment

Enrollment Disparities by Age Group by Area

- Preschool (3-4 year-olds): Rural 43.5%, Urban 48.5%
- Public School (K-12 students): Rural 90.3%, Urban 90.0%
- Private School (K-12 students): Rural 9.7%, Urban 10.0%
- College (18-24 year-olds): Rural 32.8%, Urban 48.3%

Educational Attainment Distribution by Area

- High School Diploma or less
  - Rural 38.4%
  - Urban 34.1%
- Some College
  - Rural 32.3%
  - Urban 34.1%
- Bachelor's Degree
  - Rural 17.7%
  - Urban 12.9%
- Graduate Degree
  - Rural 11.6%
  - Urban 7.1%
Educational Attainment

Percentage of Population 25 & Over without a High School Diploma by City/Township

Percentage of Population 25 & Over with at least a Bachelor’s Degree by City/Township
Income and Employment
Household Income

Mean Household Income by City/Township

Distribution of Household Income by Area

- Less than $30,000
- $30,000 to less than $50,000
- $50,000 to less than $60,000
- $60,000 to less than $75,000
- $75,000 to less than $100,000
- $100,000 or greater

- Rural
- Urban

Percent of Households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$10,000-$14,999</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$15,000-$19,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>$20,000-$24,999</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$25,000-$29,999</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
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<td>$30,000-$34,999</td>
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<td>$35,000-$39,999</td>
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<td>$45,000-$49,999</td>
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<td>$175,000-$179,999</td>
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<td>$180,000-$184,999</td>
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<td>$185,000-$189,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>$190,000-$194,999</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$195,000-$199,999</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$200,000 or more</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
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Poverty

Percentage of Population in Poverty by City/Township

Percentage of Population on SNAP by City/Township
Employment Industries

Industry Employment by Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Percent of Total Workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Health</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Entertainment</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Insurance</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Hunting, Mining</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rural: brown, Urban: blue
Health
Health Insurance

Percentage of Population Uninsured by County

Proportion of Population Enrolled in Medicaid by City/Township
Health Disparities

Health Factor Ranking by County

Health Outcome Ranking by County
Crime and Safety
Crime

Violent Crime by Area

Components of Violent Crime by Area

- Aggravated Assault: 262.2 (Rural), 114.4 (Urban)
- Robbery: 98.9 (Rural), 6.6 (Urban)
- Criminal Sexual Conduct: 77.2 (Rural), 55.7 (Urban)
- Murder: 2 (Rural), 6.4 (Urban)

Percent of Total Violent Crimes:
- Assault: 57.1% (Urban), 62.0% (Rural)
- Robbery: 23.4% (Urban), 3.3% (Rural)
- Criminal Sexual Conduct: 38.6% (Urban), 13.2% (Rural)
- Murder: 1.5% (Urban), 1.0% (Rural)
Take Aways
In a Nutshell

- Most of Michigan’s residents live in the state’s urban areas
  - Urban areas comprise little of the state’s land area
- Relative to the rural areas, populations in urban communities
  - are growing faster
  - have more diversity in race and ethnicity
  - include more immigrants from a wider cross section of nations
- Both rural and urban areas have wealthy and less-wealthy communities.
- While poverty is often associated with Michigan’s core urban communities, with their deep levels of poverty and need, many rural communities
  - have low-income individuals
  - are frequent users of food stamps and Medicaid
- While there are some differences, such as
  - more college graduates per capita,
  - more crime per capita,
  - greater access to broadband Internet service in urban areas
  - urban and rural Michigan have far more in common than not
Future of Rural Michigan

• Losing land to urban sprawl

• Population growing at anemic rate (0.01%)

• Key industries harmed most by globalization and automation

• Difficulties attracting young professionals (i.e., doctors)

• Further deterioration of per capita income and increased demand for support program (e.g., SNAP and Medicaid)

• Poverty and health disparities comparable to inner cities